



Wednesday Bible Study
January 6, 2016
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A Prayer for the Church
Matthew 5:13-16

The real value of something is often not fully realized until it no longer exists (i.e., George Bailey in *It's a Wonderful Life*).

It is in times and seasons where the ministry of the church has been subdued that you realize its true significance.

In **Matthew 5:13-16**, Jesus taught about the life-promoting power of the church.

Great Truth: *I pray that our church will be a stronghold of _____ in a lost and dying world.*

1. The _____ Nature of the Church (v. 13a)

- Salt _____ as a preservative.
- Salt _____ with flavor.

2 Cor. 2:14-15

2. The _____ Effect of the Church (v. 14)

- Light _____ hope.
- Light _____ the way.

Jn. 1:4-5; 10:10

3. The _____ Concerns of the Church (v. 13b, 15-16)

- The danger of losing our _____.
- The danger of extinguishing our _____.

Rev. 2:4-5

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD . . .

- ✓ *Is your spiritual _____ salty?*
- ✓ *Is your spiritual _____ shining?*